

atches, quoted by the President, advocating the submission of the Constitution for ratification or rejection by the vote of the people.— Indeed my only alternative was to suppress this revolution by the bayonet, or by advocating the submission of the Constitution as stated, and pledging my best exertions to obtain a fair election for the people of the Territorial Legislature, in the then ensuing October. These pledges and these alone, it is conceded, prevented revolution and civil war. And why should they not now be redeemed? For myself, these pledges have been thus far most faithfully maintained, and they will be redeemed by me, if necessary, with the last drop of my life's blood, and to the latest hour of my existence. These were pledges well known to the President and all his cabinet.— They were pledges given by me in good faith and any abandonment of them now on my part, after the people had accepted and acted upon them, would be to cover myself with infamy and dishonor. Whatever, then, may be the action of the wavering, timid or corrupt, menace and proscription have no terrors for me. I will continue to tread the path where conscience and duty call me, regardless of all consequences and sacrifices, personal or political. But were the case now exempt from these pledges and their consequences, it is true that the people in framing a State Constitution are only to decide the slavery question? Has it come to this? That the people in their sovereignty are to decide only the destiny of such Africans as may be in their limits, and not upon all those far greater rights which concern the life, liberty, property and happiness of a free people? Has the African become so elevated above the free men of this Union, that they, in their sovereign capacity, may not decide upon all that concerns our government, but only upon the fate of that sable race that may be within their boundaries? And is it true that the people in inchoate free States can neither ratify nor reject any part of their State Constitution, but that this can be done in inchoate slave States only, and then only regards this particular institution?

The Kansas and Nebraska bill declares it to be "the true intent and meaning of the act, to leave the people thereof perfectly free to form and regulate their domestic institutions, in their own way, subject only to the Constitution of the United States." Now the President in his December message admits that the term "people," as here used, means what it says, the people themselves in their sovereign capacity (as contradistinguished from conventions) in voting for or against the ratification of a State Constitution. But he says the terms "domestic institutions" in the plural, means only one institution, namely that of slavery. But the term "their domestic institutions" most clearly include them all, because extending in words and letter to all the territories of the Union, whether bond or free. The President regards this Kansas Nebraska bill as an enabling act but enabling whom, or what, or how? Why, enabling the people to form and regulate their domestic institutions through a State Constitution. The word "form" is here significant. Who ever spoke of forming the institutions of slavery? This word most clearly implies the forming of a State Constitution, and if it does mean this, it is not an enabling act, for that is the great object and purpose for such an act. These words then do enable the people to frame a State Constitution, and by which they shall form and regulate their institutions; and the President concedes that the word "people," as here used, means, as it says, the people themselves, as contradistinguished from conventions; by a direct vote for ratification or rejection. This then being an enabling act, an act, as construed by the President enabling the people to frame their own Constitution, this term, the people, cannot have two interpretations, one meaning the people themselves, and another also as the President insists, conventions only. No; these words "the people" in that act, have but one significant meaning as applicable to all their domestic institutions and it can never be interpreted to mean, as the President would construe it in what he calls an enabling act, the people so far as regards the question of slavery, and conventions only, as regards all other subjects. No, this great act, declaratory upon its very face, was intended to recognize the right of self-government in its broadest and most comprehensive sense, as vested in the people themselves extending to all their domestic institutions in ratifying or rejecting their State Constitutions, whose provisions could only be known and acted on by them, when submitted for their decision by the convention.

Is Democracy a name and shadow, or a substance? It means the power of the people. This is the vital essence. Or has it lost its true significance, or are we moving from it with viewless strides towards despotism, power, to make and unmake the rules of political faith under pains and penalties abhorrent to the souls of freemen? Is this the 82nd year of our independence, or is it the first year of American Monarchy, that is now dawning upon us? Let the people—let the masses composing the true Democracy, arouse from their slumbers. Let them break the chains which would fetter their free thought and free opinion and assert their blood bought rights, and especially the great inalienable sovereign right of self-government. We have fallen upon evil times—The liberties of the country are in danger. Let the people in every town, county, and State rise in their majesty to the rescue. Let the timid or corrupt falter as they may; let the Democracy of Indiana, now in mass meeting assembled, proclaim in tones that shall echo throughout our Republic, that the spirit of the revolution is not extinct in their bosoms, but that from the lakes of the North to the lovely valleys of the Wabash and Ohio, you, the Democracy of Indiana, will stand as one undaunted column by the great principle of popular sovereignty, sustained by them at the polls in 1856 as embodied in the submission of the constitution for ratification or rejection, by the unfettered vote of the people of Kansas and of every other Territory. Thanking you for the kind manner in which the committee, through you, have been pleased to speak of my humble services in behalf of the great Democratic doctrine of State and popular sovereignty.

I am, most respectfully,
Your fellow-citizen,
R. J. WALKER.

—Gone.—A first rate joke took place quite lately, in our Court room, says the Hartford Courant. A woman was testifying in behalf of her son, and swore that "he had worked on a farm ever since he was born." The lawyer, who cross-examined her said, "You assert that your son has worked on a farm ever since he was born?"
"He did." "What did he do the first year?"
"He milked!"
"The lawyer evaporated."

—DOCTORING THE SICK.—Ex-Senator Dickinson of New York is in Washington marshaling the Democrats of New York, and endeavoring to reconcile them to suicide by an overdose of Lecompton.

THE REGISTER.

LIONEL, MARCH 11, 1858.

The Republican State Convention.

We copy in another part of our paper to-day, an abstract of the proceedings of this body, which met at Indianapolis on Thursday last, together with the platform of Principles adopted.— The Convention was well attended and enthusiastic, and judging from the reports of the proceedings all who were present were duly impressed with the importance of the occasion, and the importance of the principles there to be deliberated upon. The Platform adopted meets with our hearty approval, and upon it we are willing to take our stand, to do battle for Free Soil, Free Speech and Free Men. They are not so radical but what all honest and sincere opponents of the aggressions of the Slave Power, in the shape of election frauds or Lecompton swindles, may unite "to teach transgressors their ways," and overthrow the monster before it shall have usurped the liberties of the people, and placed its iron heels upon our necks. They are in striking contrast with the time-serving resolutions passed by the office-holders Convention of the 8th of January last, and if the honest voters of Indiana would but be guided by the dictates of their better judgment and sound reason, and not be influenced by party feelings, or blinded by party spirit, we could teach those who have attempted to perpetrate a great wrong upon our nation that we are not to be trifled with, or our votes bought by the paltry love of office or its honors.

In regard to the candidates the *Journal* well says the ticket was heartily ratified by the Convention, and it deserved it. We think it one of the best tickets ever presented to the people of Indiana. The men are no hack-nied candidates who have been before conventions every year for half a lifetime. There are no professional office-seekers among them. All are new men, fresh from the people; and from their private duties and professions. There is not a man among them against whom a syllable of impeachment in any respect mental, moral or political, can be urged. They are honest men, and they are qualified: They fill the whole Jeffersonian measure. There might have been able or more popular men put forward for particular offices, but the whole ticket together is an excellent one, and Indiana never had a better one.

The Convention was numerous attended. The Hall was packed full, the whole day. All the aisles, the windows, the platform, the standing room everywhere, were filled to the last inch. We never saw so many men in the Hall before. In fact there were too many in attendance for comfort, or for the dispatch of business. And we never saw a crowd filled with a better spirit, or more resolute to do right in spite of differences. And we never saw a meeting break up so well satisfied with a day's work as did that Convention.— There were few long faces, and few muttered discontents. Everybody seemed to think a dangerous rock had been safely weathered, and to feel a new hope and a stronger faith in a cause which had reconciled so many conflicting views, and brought a happy termination to anticipated difficulties.

In the Senate.

The *Tribune* correspondent informs us that the Kansas debate in the Senate cannot probably be brought to a close in less than a month; and its chances at the end of that time, are not so strongly in favor of Lecompton as have been supposed. With JEFFERSON DAVIS sick and absent, and the tremendous battery from the Republican side pouring in on the Lecomptonites for so long a period, the result cannot be regarded as certain. Meantime, another convention is called in Kansas, the election to which takes place to-day. The convention meets in a couple of weeks more, and it is quite likely that the constitution which it is to frame will be adopted by the people, and in Washington by the time the Senate is ready to vote. The Administration is getting deeper and deeper in this Kansas morass, and if they do not drown, it shall not be our fault.

We invite the closest perusal of the reader to the letter of Hon. R. J. Walker, formerly Governor of Kansas, given in another column. It is no "Black Republican lie," but the utterance of a man who knows the things therein to be true, and who cannot have his mouth stopped from telling them by all the thunder of *King James* and his myrmidons. Read it, and think.

The report that Henry Ward Beecher is going to California the coming summer is contradicted.

The Signs of the Times.

The 4th of March last was the first anniversary of the inauguration of JAMES BUCHANAN as President of these United States. The sun arose on that day more glorious than that of Austerlitz—inspiring our Democratic friends with hope and joy, which alas! are turned to disappointment and mourning. The luminary which they worshipped, with all the ardor and blind devotion of a Parsee, has gone down, like Lucifer, never to rise again.

In proof of this, read the accounts of the meetings of the Anti-Lecompton wing of the Democratic party now being held almost daily. Men who were one year ago loudest in their praises of the Sage of Wheatland, are now the foremost to denounce the perfidy of his conduct in the Kansas outrage.

A large and enthusiastic meeting was held at Cincinnati on the 10th inst., headed by H. B. Payne, their late Democratic candidate for Governor, a short account of which we give in our paper to-day. There was also an uprising of the Democracy of this State at Indianapolis on the 22d ult., which was spirited and outspoken, as the following resolution, among the number adopted, will testify:

7. That the policy of forcing Kansas into the Union upon a Constitution already rejected at the ballot-box by a large majority of the people for whose government it was framed, is ruinous; that it involves an act of Congressional invention and criminal usurpation—accomplished, if at all, at a sacrifice of the plighted faith of the nation, and in defiance of principles of self-government, to which the delegate Convention of the 8th of January last pledged the Democracy of Indiana. The same party now, in mass Convention, most solemnly protest against the threatened treason to its principles, and repudiate the action of those members of Congress from this State who shall approve of or vote for dragging Kansas into the Union upon the Lecompton Constitution.

Gov. WALKER's able letter to the Convention, which we publish, is enough of itself, to nerve every patriot to resistance to the atrocious usurpation of President Buchanan; while the proceedings in Congress are hardly less ominous, even if somewhat less hopeful.

We might mention other items as tokens of the spirit pervading among the untutored Democracy, for instance the meeting at Toledo, at Cleveland, at Columbus, &c., but this will suffice to show that the Democracy of the Great North-west are not to be bought and sold, or their rights to be trampled upon by usurpers, without some show of resistance. Let the people speak in tones not to be mistaken.

New Discovery of Marble.

While on a visit to Chicago, this week, we were shown a specimen of Marble, quarried on the shore of Lake Superior, which is pronounced by Messrs. H. & O. Wilson, the heaviest Marble Dealers in the City, as the best marble in the known world. It is of a darker color than either the Italian or American Marble, but susceptible of a higher polish than either.

There is also a larger variety of color than in any other marble. The specimen that we saw varied from a lightish violet color to that resembling a peach-blow hue. The Messrs. Wilson's gave an order for a quantity of it at prices exceeding the present selling rates for Italian marble.

If this marble should realize the expectations of the Messrs. Wilson's it will make quite a revolution in the marble trade of this country.

The gentleman who owns the quarry above mentioned, informed us that the supply is almost inexhaustible.

We would remark that the marble will not at present be used as much for tombstones as for furniture, such as Mantels, Table tops, &c. &c., as it is of a very hard material, making it much more expensive to work.

Robbery of the Treasurer's Office.

On Monday night last, the Treasurer's Office of this County was broken into and some fifteen dollars in silver coin taken therefrom. There was also fifteen or twenty dollars of bank bills, and a small amount more of silver in the drawer, which was not taken.

It is supposed to have been robbed by some petty thief whose demands for money were quite modest. It also appears that the thief or thieves belonged to the mint-drop stripe of politics, and that hard money was their motto.

We understand that it is not usual for the Treasurer to leave money in the office in its present unprotected state, but had happened at this time to leave the small amount heretofore mentioned.

The office was entered through the window, which was made accessible by means of wood being piled up against the building, immediately under the window, to a sufficient height to easily reach it.

The County Seat.

Something has been said, lately, pro and con, on the subject of removing the county-seat. We understand that a majority of the citizens are opposed to the removal.—*Wells Ch. J.*

Our Albion friends have been considerably alarmed of late by the agitation of the removal of the county seat from their very quiet town to some point on the Rail Road. The means of access to our neighbors, is indeed, unfortunate. Had they secured through their place a rail, or even a plank road, it might have precluded the idea of an attempted removal. But the effect of remonstrating in this matter is only to make people talk the more, and in view of this fact we deem it important to lay before our readers a condensed statement, of the law made and provided in case of removal. The Legislature of '55 passed an act, entitled "An act to provide for the re-location of county seats, and for the erection of Public Buildings in Counties, in case of such re-location, on petition to the County Commissioners, of two-thirds of the legal voters of any County, the Commissioners shall employ a competent architect to draft plans and specifications of new buildings, the same to be of Brick or Stone with fire-proof offices, the whole cost of which shall not exceed \$15,000. This sum must be secured to the county before the contract for said buildings is let. And when the buildings are completed according to the plans and specifications and donated to the County together with three and a quarter acres of land, enclosed with a good fence—then the board of County Commissioners shall remove the books and records of the County to such new buildings, which, from and after such removal, shall be the seat of justice of said county.

The Legislature has thrown ample guards around the tax-payers, and secures in all cases good brick or stone buildings, with fire proof offices as a donation to the County in case of removal, which in these hard times, when our county tax is seventy cents on the hundred dollars valuation, is highly important.

In what we have here said, we do not wish to be understood as taking sides on the question of removal, but in the words of the famous Kansas bill, "leave the people perfectly free to decide this matter for themselves."

Bigamy.

There has been some little excitement in town for a few days past, in relation to a man who has resided here for some months, being charged with bigamy.— We understand that a correspondence has been instituted by a letter written from the State of New York by a lady enquiring for a man by the name of Long, describing him, &c., and representing herself as the wife of Long.— Said Long having, and living with a wife here. The news of the aforesaid correspondence being communicated to Mr. Long, he seemed to be impressed with the truth of the facts set out therein. After a confession of his Mormon proclivities, and while the 'Regulators,' as we understand, were cogitating upon their right to regulate such matters Long "regulated" himself off. Consequently his shadow is less here than it was.

Our county will doubtless feel hard at his leaving thus, as he had given in to the Assessor four thousand dollars as taxable property belonging to himself.

We learn that the aforesaid property really consists in some "castles built in the air," as also some land spied out by Gulliver in his wonderful travels.— Property which will be rather hard for our tax collector to get at, consequently we think that it will have to go on the Delinquent list.

A very nice thing was Mr. BALEY's concert on Saturday evening last. The progress which has been made by Mr. B's class in only a two weeks school, we venture to say, almost without parallel. We are surprised at the proficiency attained, and it fairly seemed marvelous that those who two or three weeks ago were ignorant of the science of music should be able to entertain an audience with the honors of an old and advanced class.

Mr. B. has commenced a second term, which will close like the past one with a public concert.

We think accommodations for a large audience will be needed, than was made for the previous one.

We call attention to the new advertisement of CARR & KIMMEL. Call and see them. We think that they mean to be "some pumpkins" in selling goods in their line.

The weather is quite Spring-like.

Republican State Convention.

We have not room for a full report of the doings of this body, which met at Indianapolis, March 4th, but we give such parts of its proceedings of interest to a majority of our readers.

The Convention was organized by choosing Hon. O. P. MORTON, President, and electing a number of Vice Presidents, among whom we notice the name of WM. MITCHELL, Esq., of Kendallville. Speeches were made by the President, Hon. S. W. Parker; Hon. H. S. Lane and others, which had a thrilling effect upon the audience, and brought down thunders of applause.

The usual number of Committees were appointed, among which were a Committee of three from each Congressional District to nominate state officers, and a Committee of one from each District to report a Platform of Principles.— While these Committees were preparing to report, several pithy and pointed speeches were made by Messrs. Julian, Murray and others, when the Committee on Platform announced themselves as prepared to report. Mr. Hudson read the report as follows:

DECLARATION OF PRINCIPLES.

1. That our National Government ought to be administered as to promote harmony between the different sections of our country, secure the affections of all the people of the United States, and command the respect of the Nations of the earth.

2. That the people of a Territory when they come to form a Constitution preparatory to their admission into the Union as a State have the right to adopt such a constitution, being Republican in form, as may be acceptable to themselves, and that no State ought to be received into the Union before the constitution thereof has been fully and fairly submitted to the people for their adoption or rejection, and received the approval of the majority of its legal voters.

3. That the attempt now being so persistently made by the present administration to impose upon Kansas the Lecompton Constitution, notoriously obnoxious to the great majority of her citizens, and with no other object than to force upon them institutions against which they have repeatedly and most earnestly protested, is a gross outrage upon the rights of the people of that Territory, and calculated to disturb the peace and harmony of the country.

4. That Freedom is National and Slavery Sectional, and that we do most earnestly protest against and denounce the dangerous and alarming doctrine first promulgated by the disunionists and nullifiers of the South, that the Constitution of the United States of itself carries slavery into, and protects it in all the territories of the United States, and this doctrine and all its supporters, maintainers and defenders whether in or out of authority, we here pledge ourselves to resist and oppose, as enemies to the peace and welfare of the country.

5. That we re-affirm the doctrine that Congress has the constitutional power to exclude slavery from the national territories, notwithstanding the extra judicial opinion of the Supreme Court of the United States to the contrary.

6. That we disclaim any right to interfere with Slavery in the States where it exists under the shield of State sovereignty, but we oppose now, as heretofore, its extension into any of the territories, and will use all proper and constitutional means to prevent such extension.

7. That we do not struggle for a mere party triumph, but for the right, and the good of our whole country, and that we honor those political opponents who have had the manliness to place themselves in opposition to the Administration in its assault upon the fundamental principles of American liberty.

8. That Jesse D. Bright and Graham N. Fitch are not of right the Representatives of this State in the Senate of the United States, and ought to be immediately ousted therefrom.

9. That we will always resist the scheme of selfish and insular persons, high in power, having for its object the transfer of the Wabash and Erie Canal from the bondholders to the State.

10. That we are in favor of granting to actual settlers on the public lands a homestead of at least 160 acres.

After a spirited and somewhat exciting debate, in which Messrs. Riley, Parker, Dunn, Julian and Morton participated. Mr. Orth came forward and put the following question: "Shall the resolutions as reported by the Committee be adopted?" The vote in the affirmative was a tremendous shout. Some one said it was not worth while to put the other side. But Mr. Orth put the negative and some five or six voices responded "no." So the platform was adopted, almost unanimously. This result was greeted with long and hearty cheering, kept up for several minutes.

Mr. Orth, Mr. Veach, Mr. Cumback and Mr. Riley followed in brief, appropriate and well aimed speeches, in support of the action taken by the Convention, and pledging themselves to do all in their power to carry the ticket through.

When Mr. Riley concluded, Mr. Stanfield, of St. Joseph, from the Committee to nominate candidates came forward and made the following report of the ticket selected by them for the action of the Convention:

FOR SUPREME JUDGES.
1st Dist.—HORACE P. BIDDLE, of Cass;
2d.—ABRAM W. HENDRICKS, Jefferson;
3d.—SIMON YANDES, of Marion;
4th.—WM. D. GRISWOLD, of Vigo.

ATTORNEY GENERAL.
WILLIAM T. OTTO, of Floyd;
TREASURER OF STATE.
JOHN H. HARPER, of St. Joseph.

AUDITOR OF STATE.

ALBERT LANGE, of Vigo.

SECRETARY OF STATE.

WILLIAM A. PEELE, of Randolph.
SUPERINTENDENT PUBLIC INSTRUCTION
JOHN YOUNG, of Marion.

It was moved that the ticket be unanimously accepted by the Convention, which carried, and the ticket was approved with three tremendous cheers.

Mr. Ray then moved that the Committee on the selection of a State Central Committee report to night at 7 o'clock, which prevailed. A motion to adjourn *sine die* was then made and carried, and the President announced the Convention adjourned *sine die*. He also announced that a ratification meeting would be held at 7 o'clock. The Convention then adjourned.

EVENING MEETING.

A ratification meeting to endorse the proceedings of the Convention, and dispose of unfinished business, commenced at 7 o'clock. P. A. Hackleman, Esq., of Rush, was made president, and on taking the chair made a brief speech.

In the course of his remarks he told an anecdote which contained a hard slap against the *Sentinel*. A negro boy on a steamboat was asked who he belonged to. He replied that he belonged to Capt. George that morning, but his master had been playing poker all day, and he did not know whose nigger he was now. So it was with the *Sentinel*. Its owners had been playing poker and had transferred it about several times of late. It was now doing the best it could for Lecompton and slavery.

William Grose, of Henry, in a few remarks made some happy hits at the administration, which "brought down the house." A brief review of the doings in the Legislature last winter was given, which was concise and pointed, and "telling" against Willard & Co.

Gen. G. K. Steele, of Parke, followed Mr. Grose. He said the platform made by this convention was one of the best he had ever read, and there never was a better ticket presented to the people than the one formed by the Republicans to-day. It was the duty now of every one present to go home and assist in its election. Several anecdotes told as illustrative of the policy of the President produced roars of laughter in the hall. He endorsed the nomination of Mr. Griswold for Supreme Judge, and Mr. Lange for Auditor. These gentlemen were from his section of the State, and he was authorized to speak for them.

Mr. Ray, of Clark, followed Gen. Steele. Several other speeches were made, but we have no room for even a notice of them. The meeting was held until a late hour, and the interest did not seem to abate during any part of the evening, although the majority of those present had been in the hall participating in the proceedings of the Convention from an early hour in the morning.

Unparalleled and Unblushing Bribery and Corruption.

The Washington Union, the official organ of (King James) gives the following as the *modus operandi* by which the Representatives of the people are to be induced to vote for that most infamous of all tyrannies, the Felon Lecompton Constitution. Read it, and ask yourselves whether Hottentots would not be ashamed of such an administration:

"If there should be seen a single Democrat to waver, suspicion of infidelity to the party must necessarily arise. The Democratic party must be preserved! If patriotic services deserve reward at the hands of the people when displayed on the field of battle, they no less deserve it when displayed in civil life.

The (Kansas) matter is now in the precise condition in which the Executive influence may be most available and decisive. The shaly and hesitating Democrats are marked, and may be bought into the ranks. A large Executive patronage is yet undisposed of. Additional patronage is to be afforded by the Army bill, if it should pass, as it will, in some shape.

Spring is Coming.

So have thought McLean & Shobe, who have anticipated the wants of the Farmer, by ordering, and are just now receiving a lot of Hoes, Garden Rakes, &c., for consigning the early seeds to the earth.

Also, they have been receiving an addition to their other varieties of Hardware. Give them a call.

Last Friday evening, we, (the "devil" and all hands,) had the pleasure of attending the exhibition of the world-renowned Magician KING, the performance was splendid—he is the King of Magicians.

We are indebted to Hon. CHAS. CASE, for valuable public documents, and other favors. He has our thanks.